



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

NEWS

I-405 Project, 600 108th Avenue NE, Bellevue, WA 98004

For Immediate Release

September 21, 2005

Contacts: Denise A. Cieri, Project Manager, I-405 Project (425) 456-8509
Colleen Gants, Public Information, I-405 Project (425) 456-8555

WSDOT Selects Kiewit Construction for I-405 Kirkland Nickel Improvement Project

-Construction set to begin one year ahead of schedule

OLYMPIA – The I-405 Corridor Program embarked on its first construction contract funded by the 2003 “Nickel Gas Tax” program, receiving a best value proposal for the Kirkland Nickel Improvement Project Stage 1 from Kiewit Construction partnered with DMJM Harris and Perteet. The announcement was made today in Olympia, and the design-build contract is estimated at \$47.5 million. Construction activities are scheduled to begin in late 2005, one year ahead of schedule.

Ahead of schedule and on budget, the project is the first of four Nickel Improvement Projects on I-405 to begin construction. The 2003 Washington State Legislature approved \$485 million in funding for I-405 Nickel Improvement Projects in Kirkland (Stage 1 and 2), Bellevue and Renton. The 2005 Washington State Legislature approved \$972 million for 11 additional projects in Bothell, Kirkland, Bellevue, Renton and Tukwila. These projects create a \$1.5 billion program that is part of a Master Plan to address congestion and improve traffic flow for cars and transit on I-405.

The Stage 1 Kirkland Project focuses on the section between NE 85th Street to NE 124th Street. This project adds a new lane in each direction, and re-builds the NE 116th Street interchange to an innovative design allowing traffic to move more efficiently.

“Kirkland has consistently worked with WSDOT on I-405 visioning and planning and we are pleased to see the first Nickel Improvement Project come to fruition in our area,” stated Kirkland Mayor, MaryAlyce Burleigh. “This project complements Sound Transit’s Totem Lake Freeway Station Project at NE 128th to provide much-needed congestion relief in the north I-405 corridor.”

-More-

"The Kirkland Nickel Improvement Project is a major milestone marking the first investment from the \$1.5 billion in currently-funded I-405 corridor projects," says Craig Stone, WSDOT Project Director. "These investments are on par with successful major highway design-build projects in Denver (T-REX) and Salt Lake City (I-15) – both also constructed by Kiewit.

The I-405 Kirkland Nickel Project is WSDOT's fourth Design-Build procurement (the first three were the SR 500 Project in Vancouver, Wash., Tacoma Narrows Bridge Project in Tacoma, Wash., and I-5 Everett Freeway Expansion and HOV Project in Everett, Wash.). Kiewit Construction is the contractor for the Tacoma Narrows Bridge Project.

Kiewit is one of the largest construction and mining organizations in North America, with more than 30 district and area offices in the United States and Canada; locally located in Seattle. The Kiewit approach to detailed and methodical planning translates into "no surprises" for its clients. As employee-owners, Kiewit people are dedicated, have high expectations based on the company's past success, and bring a sense of urgency to every project. DMJM Harris' goal is to provide exceptional and high quality professional and technical services to all clients using creative solutions for all challenges, large and small. DMJM Harris is locally located in Bellevue and Seattle.

For more information on the Kirkland Nickel Improvement project please visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/project/i405 or contact Colleen Gants, Public Information, 425.456.8500 | Colleen.Gants@i405.wsdot.wa.gov. The I-405 Project is planning a Kirkland Nickel Improvement Project Kickoff Event in October. Please visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/i405/corridor/communitycalendar for detailed event information.

###

About Kiewit Construction

With a local office in Renton, Wash., Kiewit is one of the largest construction and mining organizations in North America, with more than 30 district and area offices in the United States and Canada. Kiewit has a proven track record for delivering large and challenging projects on time and within budget. Ranked by *Fortune* magazine as one of America's Most Admired Companies, Kiewit is known throughout the industry as an organization built on honesty and integrity.

About DMJM Harris

Specializing in Transit/Rail, Highways and Bridges, Marine, Airports, and Energy Infrastructure, DMJM Harris's multidiscipline staff of 2,000 engineers, construction specialists, and other professionals is strategically deployed in offices around the world. The firm is moving its local operations to Bellevue, Wash. We're equipped to meet the most demanding and complex requirements that a client can define, and our reputation is to be "The People Who Get It Done."